

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 000620

SIPDIS

NSC FOR CBARTON  
USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLD  
USAID DCHA/OTI FOR RPORTER  
FBI CT DIVISION/OO FOR NGAMBA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/03/2013

TAGS: PGOV PHUM KJUS VE

SUBJECT: ADVANCING THE REVOLUTION: BRINGING THE ATTORNEY  
GENERAL'S OFFICE T HEEL

CLASSIFIED BY: POLITICAL COUNSELOR ABELARO A. ARIAS FOR REASONS 1.4 (B  
) AND (D)

¶11. (C ON FEBRUARY 18, CARMEN ALGUINDIGUE, DIRECTOR OF PROCEDURAL ACTION AND ONE OF THREE KEY CAREER EMPLOYEES IN THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, WAS FIRED. ACCORDING TO LEGATT, AT LEAST TWO MORE TOP EMPLOYEES IN THE ORGANIZATION WILL BE FIRED AS PART O A STRATEGY TO FORCE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFIE TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF PRESIDENT CHAVEZ.

¶12. (C) IN MID-FEBRUARY, SOURCES TOLD LEGATT THAT TTORNEY GENERAL ISAIAS RODRIGUEZ ANNOUNCED A SHIT IN POLICY TO MANIPULATE CASE INVESTIGATIONS TOFAVOR GOV INTERESTS. ANY CASES BROUGHT AGAINST HE CHAVEZ GOVERNMENT WOULD BE HANDLED IN SUCH A MNNER THAT THE OUTCOMES WOULD NOT EMBARRASS OR DAAGE THE GOV. SEVERAL SENIOR OFFICIALS, INCLUDING ALGUINDIGUE, OBJECTED TO WHAT THEY VIEWED AS A POICY OF POLITICAL FAVORITISM AND WERE CONSEQUENTL INFORMED THEY WOULD BE REPLACED BY CHAVEZ SUPPORERS BY MARCH 1. AMONG THOSE WHO EXPECT TO BE FIED ARE RAMON MEDINA, DIRECTOR OF CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS, AND MAGALY MALPICA, CHIEF OF THE DIRECTORTE OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS. MEDINA OVERSEES 70 PESENT OF THE COUNTRY'S PUBLIC PROSECUTORS. MALPICA S IN CHARGE OF INVESTIGATING PUBLIC OFFICIALS ACUSED OF ABUSE OF AUTHORITY AND/OR VIOLATING THE IGHTS OF OTHERS. MEDINA AND ALGUINDIGUE WERE KE CONTACTS FOR LEGATT AND NAS.

-----  
COMMENT  
-----

¶13. (C) BY REMOVING THESE OFFICIALS, TH CHAVEZ GOVERNMENT IS DISMANTLING THE LAST BULWAK OF INSTITUTIONAL INTEGRITY IN THE ATTORNEY GENRAL'S OFFICE. ALTHOUGH LEGATT EXPECTS CONTINUIN COOPERATION FROM VENEZUELAN LAW ENFORCEMENT ON TRICHTY CRIMINAL MATTERS, COOPERATION IN POLITICALL SENSITIVE CASES WILL LIKELY BE MINIMAL AT BEST. IN ADDITION, LEGATT IS PESSIMISTIC REGARDING TH EMBASSY'S FUTURE ABILITY TO INFLUENCE INSTITUTINAL REFORM IN THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, ESPCIALLY THROUGH US-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMS.  
SHAPIR

NNNN

2004CARACA00620 - CONFIDENTIAL